



FEB.  
NO.180

# POW-WOW SMITH

INDIAN LAWMAN

10¢



# Detective COMICS

Another  
TRICK-PACKED DUEL  
BETWEEN THE  
CRIME-CLOWN  
AND  
BATMAN and ROBIN  
in  
**"The Joker's  
Millions!"**



# BULLY says: "BE YOURSELF-- YOUR BEST SELF!"

MY, WHAT A CHANGE IN YOUNG BOB HUNTER!

I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT'S THE SAME BOY, MISS BROWN! ONLY A MONTH AGO, HE WAS SO UNPLEASANT AND SLOPPY NOBODY PAID ANY ATTENTION TO HIM.

AND WAS HE MISERABLE ABOUT IT, TOO?... I REMEMBER THAT NIGHT A MONTH AGO AT OUR FIRST BIG SCHOOL AFFAIR...

"MISS BROWN WAS CHAPERONE THAT NIGHT, TOO, AND SHE TRIED TO BE NICE TO BOB..."

I DON'T SEE YOU DANCING, BOB. WHY DON'T--

AW, I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF. WHO WANTS TO DANCE? THAT'S FOR SISSIES!

HMM...THAT KIDS MAKING LIFE MISERABLE FOR OTHERS--  
**AND HIMSELF!** SOMEBODY OUGHT TO TIP HIM OFF...

"I DECIDED TO TAKE A CRACK AT THE JOB MYSELF--AND I TALKED TO HIM LIKE A DUTCH UNCLE!"

LOOK, BOB, YOU'RE NOT FOOLING ANYBODY--A LOT OF FELLOWS GO THROUGH THE STAGE YOU'RE GOING THROUGH. YOU'RE JUST NOT SURE OF YOURSELF--SO YOU'RE DEFYING EVERYBODY!

YOU'RE RUDE TO PEOPLE AND YOUR APPEARANCE IS ENOUGH TO KEEP ANY GIRL A MILE AWAY FROM YOU. LOOK AT YOURSELF. HAIR UNCOMBED, FINGERNAILS DIRTY, SUIT UNPRESSED... YOU'RE A NICE KID, BOB--BUT YOU DON'T GIVE YOURSELF A CHANCE!

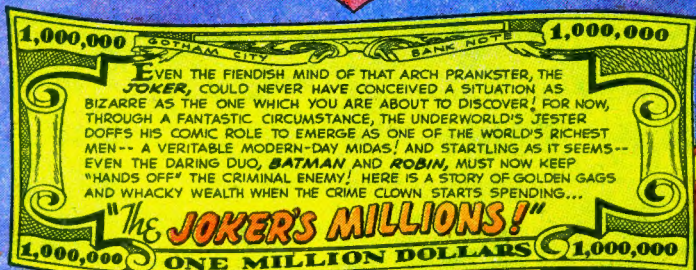
YOU CAN BUY A LIFETIME TICKET TO FRIENDS, GOOD TIMES AND **SELF-CONFIDENCE**, IF YOU TRY BEING YOURSELF--YOUR **BEST SELF**. AND THAT MEANS **LOOKING** YOUR BEST AND REMEMBERING THAT **GOOD MANNERS** MEANS JUST BEING COURTEOUS AND THOUGHTFUL OF OTHERS!

EULP! I SURE DID A GOOD JOB OF CONVINCING BOB. HE'S DANCING WITH MY GIRL, SUSIE, NOW!

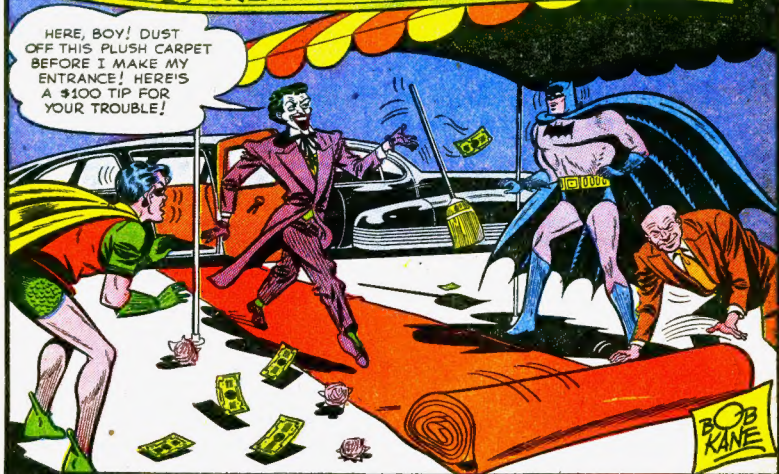
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# BATMAN

With  
**ROBIN**  
THE BOY WONDER



HERE, BOY! DUST OFF THIS PLUSH CARPET BEFORE I MAKE MY ENTRANCE! HERE'S A \$100 TIP FOR YOUR TROUBLE!





ONE EVENING IN GOTHAM CITY, A GROUP OF UNDERWORLD CRIMINALS ASSEMBLES AT THE PALATIAL HOME OF RACKETEER "KING" BARLOWE...

IF YOU'LL KINDLY LEAVE YOUR - ER - REVOLVER WITH ME, SIR! THE LAWYERS FELT IT WOULD BE... ER... SAFER THAT WAY -- IN CASE ANYONE'S DISAPPOINTED WITH HIS SHARE IN THE ESTATE!

OKAY, JARVIS! I AIN'T WORRIED! "KING" BARLOWE **MUST** HAVE REMEMBERED HIS OLD PAL "KNUCKLES" WORTH IN HIS WILL!

BUT EVEN AMONG THIS BIZARRE CREW, ONE FIGURE STANDS OUT AS THE STRANGEST OF THE LOT-- IT IS THAT CLOWN PRINCE OF CRIME, THE **JOKER**!

HEY, JOKER! WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' HERE? YOU WERE THE LATE "KING" BARLOWE'S **ENEMY**! WHAT DO YOU THINK HE LEFT YOU IN HIS WILL, HIS PARKING TICKETS? HA, HA!

THE LAWYERS ASKED ME TO COME AND THE JOKER NEVER TURNS DOWN AN INVITATION!

AND PRESENTLY, AS THE CRIMINAL ASSEMBLAGE GATHERS TO LEARN HOW EACH WILL SHARE IN THE FORTUNE OF THE DECEASED UNDERWORLD CZAR...

THIS IS THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT WRITTEN BY WILLIAM "KING" BARLOWE SIX MONTHS BEFORE HIS... ER... UNFORTUNATE DEATH BY SHOOTING WHILE TRYING TO ESCAPE FROM PRISON. "FIRST, TO MY TRUSTED FRIEND 'WAXEY' GATES..."

GOOD OLD KING! I KNEW HE'D REMEMBER ME! WHAT A PAL!

"...I LEAVE THE BLACKJACK I TOOK AWAY FROM HIM AFTER HE TRIED TO BRAIN ME WITH IT WHEN WE WERE KIDS JUST OUT OF REFORM SCHOOL!"

WHAT? WHY THAT CHEAP, NO GOOD... AH... AH... **CROOK!** WITH HIS MILLIONS IN LOOT ALL HE LEAVES ME IS...!

HA, HA! YOUR OLD PAL! HA, HA!

AND AS THE READING OF THE WILL CONTINUES...

"...TO MAKE SURE HE KNOWS HOW MUCH I THOUGHT OF HIM-- I BEQUEATH TO **BATMAN** -- **ONE PENNY!**"

HA HA!  
HA, HA!  
HA, HA!



**AND FINALLY...**

WHAT ABOUT THE KING'S **BIG DOUGH**? HE HAD OVER FIVE MILLION BUCKS WORTH OF LOOT STASHED AWAY!

YEAH! WHO'S GONNA GET THAT?

NOW, NOW, GENTLEMEN! I'M COMING TO THAT! THE REMAINDER OF MY ESTATE, A MILLION DOLLARS IN CASH PLUS A FORTUNE IN JEWELS, GOLD, PLATINUM AND OTHER VALUABLES GOES TO..."

WHAT? BUT THE JOKER WAS KING'S ENEMY! I WAS HIS PAL AND ALL I GOT WAS A BROKEN DOWN TOMMY-GUN! THIS AIN'T FAIR!

"...THE JOKER!"

AS USUAL, BOYS, I HAVE THE LAST LAUGH! HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA!

AND SO, IN THE DAYS WHICH FOLLOW, TO THE HOME OF THE CRIME CLOWN COMES A FORTUNE WORTHY OF A MIDAS...

BUT NOW THE JOKER DECIDES TO LIVE IN A STYLE TO WHICH HE IS NOT ACCUSTOMED...

AH, YES! THE PACKAGES OF 100 DOLLAR BILLS! THEY GO IN THE BASEMENT, BOYS, NEXT TO THE THOUSANDS!

I CAN'T STAY IN THE DUMP I'VE BEEN LIVING IN SINCE I WAS RELEASED FROM PRISON-- MUST FIND SOMETHING SUITABLE FOR A **MILLIONAIRE!**

BUT...BUT, SIR! THIS MANSION HAS 87 ROOMS!

NO, NO! THIS HOUSE IS MUCH TOO SMALL! I SAID A **BIG** HOUSE!

AND WITH HIS NEW-FOUND WEALTH, THE JOKER GOES ON A SUPER-SPENDING SPREE...

THERE YOU ARE, BOY! A \$100 TIP FOR YOUR TROUBLE!

THERE'S BRUCE WAYNE, THE WEALTHY PLAYBOY! TO THINK THAT I'M NOW DINING AT THE SAME CLUB HE VISITS!

(WHISPER) GET A LOOK AT THE JOKER, BRUCE! HE SURE HAS HIT IT RICH SINCE HE GOT OUT OF PRISON!

AND LATER, IN THE SECRET **BAT-CAVE** WHERE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD DICK GRAYSON HAVE SWITCHED TO THEIR MORE FAMOUS IDENTITIES OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**...

THE JOKER IS OPENLY BOASTING THAT HE INHERITED KING BARLOWE'S FORTUNE, **ROBIN!** UNFORTUNATELY, WE CAN'T PROVE THAT BARLOWE'S WEALTH IS **STOLEN PROPERTY!**

THEN THE JOKER CAN LEGALLY KEEP IT, **BATMAN!** I WONDER WHAT THE JOKER WILL DO NOW THAT HE DOESN'T HAVE TO ROB TO GET WEALTH?





YES, WHAT WILL THE **CRIME CLOWN** DO NOW THAT HE IS A MILLIONAIRE? TO FIND OUT, LET US JOIN HIM IN THE GLITTERING VAULT BENEATH HIS FABULOUS MANSION...

HO, HO, HO! HA, HA, HA! HOW BEAUTIFUL -- AND IT'S ALL MINE! AND THIS SPECIAL VAULT I HAD BUILT WILL KEEP MY FORTUNE SAFE!

AND LATER, IN ONE OF THE MANY ROOMS... MANSION'S

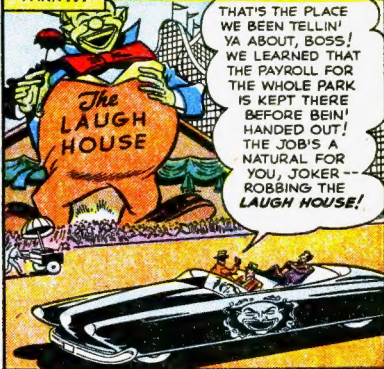
TAKE THIS COAT AWAY, TAILOR! I WANT THE SAME STYLE AND COLOR AS MY REGULAR JACKET OVER THERE!

BUT, SIR! THOSE PADDED SHOULDERS! AND... AND THE COLOR... [GULP]... **LAUVENDER!** IT'S SIMPLY NOT DONE, SIR!

HEY, BOSS! WE JUST LINED UP SOMETHIN' SENSATIONAL! COME OUT TO THE OCEANSIDE AMUSEMENT PARK AND WE'LL SHOW YA!



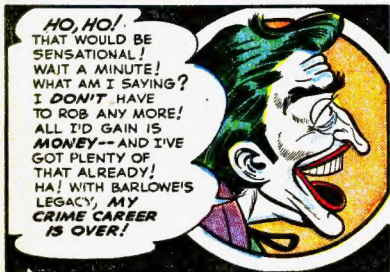
SOON AFTER, A SLEEK CONVERTIBLE STOPS BEFORE ONE OF THE CONCESSIONS ALONG THE BOARDWALK AT OCEANSIDE PARK...



THAT'S THE PLACE WE BEEN TELLIN' YA ABOUT, BOSS! WE LEARNED THAT THE PAYROLL FOR THE WHOLE PARK IS KEPT THERE BEFORE BEIN' HANDED OUT! THE JOB'S A NATURAL FOR YOU, JOKER -- ROBBING THE LAUGH HOUSE!

BUT ONE DAY SOON AFTER, IN THE VAST VAULT BENEATH THE JOKER'S MANSION...

I'VE BEEN SPENDING A LOT LATELY, BUT THERE'S PLENTY MORE WHERE THAT CAME FROM! I'LL JUST GET ANOTHER SUITCASE-FULL FOR POCKET MONEY... SAY! WHAT'S THIS? THIS PACK OF TENS LOOKS STRANGE!



HO, HO! THAT WOULD BE SENSATIONAL! WAIT A MINUTE! WHAT AM I SAYING? I DON'T HAVE TO ROB ANY MORE! ALL I'D GAIN IS **MONEY**-- AND I'VE GOT PLENTY OF THAT ALREADY! HA! WITH BARLOWE'S LEGACY, MY **CRIME CAREER IS OVER!**

GREAT SCOTT-- THAT PACK OF TENS WAS **FAKE!** AND SO'S THIS ONE-- AND THIS--AND THIS! **WHAT'S WRONG?**



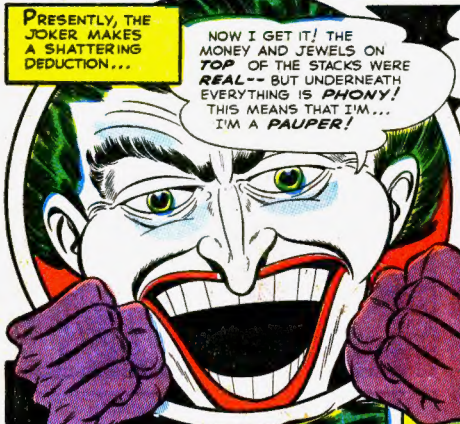
DESPERATELY, THE CRIME COMIC RIPS INTO HIS STORE OF RICHES...

AND THESE **JEWELS!** THEY'RE NOTHING BUT CLEVER PASTE IMITATIONS AND PIECES OF GLASS! BUT THEY WERE REAL WHEN I GOT THEM! AM I GOING MAD? OR HAS SOMEONE BEEN HERE?



PRESENTLY, THE JOKER MAKES A SHATTERING DEDUCTION...

NOW I GET IT! THE MONEY AND JEWELS ON **TOP** OF THE STACKS WERE **REAL**-- BUT UNDERNEATH EVERYTHING IS **PHONY!** THIS MEANS THAT I'M... I'M A **PAUPER!**



I SHOULD HAVE SUSPECTED TRICKERY WHEN KING BARLOWE LEFT ME HIS FORTUNE! HE HATED ME AND THIS WAS HIS WAY OF GETTING REVENGE ON ME EVEN AFTER HIS DEATH! HE WANTED ME TO GET USED TO RICHES AND THEN HUMILIATE ME BEFORE THE UNDERWORLD BY MAKING ME A LAUGHING STOCK!



BUT MISFORTUNE HAS YET ANOTHER BLOW FOR THE **HOODLUM HARLEQUIN.** FOR, ONE DAY SOON AFTER...

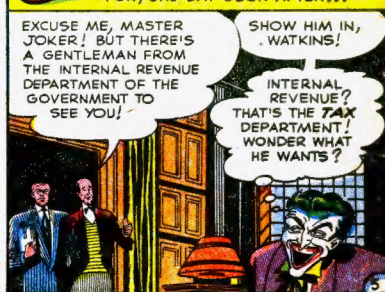
"**FOOLS' GOLD!**" THAT'S ALL IT IS! BUT THERE'S STILL ENOUGH LEFT OF THE REAL STUFF FOR ME TO KEEP UP MY MILLIONAIRE FRONT UNTIL I CAN THINK OF A WAY OUT! I MAY STILL GET THE LAST LAUGH ON BARLOWE!



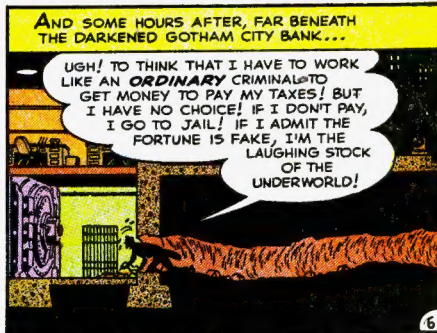
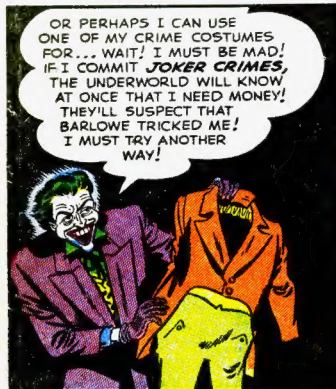
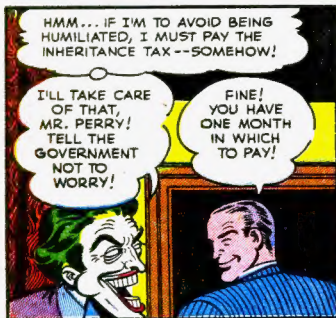
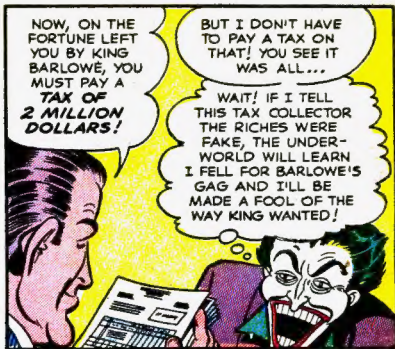
EXCUSE ME, MASTER JOKER! BUT THERE'S A GENTLEMAN FROM THE INTERNAL REVENUE DEPARTMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT TO SEE YOU!

SHOW HIM IN, WATKINS!

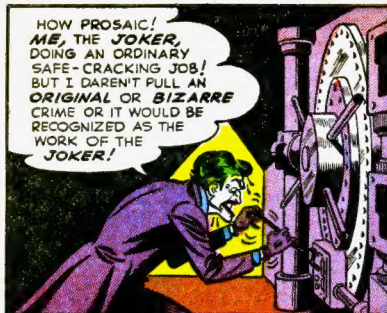
INTERNAL REVENUE? THAT'S THE **TAX** DEPARTMENT! WONDER WHAT HE WANTS?



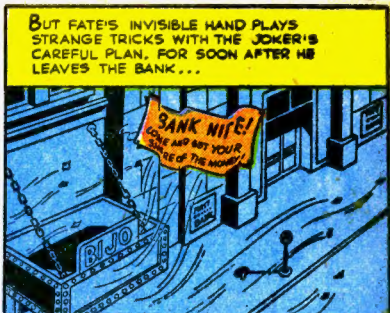








HOW PROSAIC!  
ME, THE JOKER,  
DOING AN ORDINARY  
SAFE-CRACKING JOB!  
BUT I DAREN'T PULL AN  
ORIGINAL OR BIZARRE  
CRIME OR IT WOULD BE  
RECOGNIZED AS THE  
WORK OF THE  
JOKER!



BUT FATE'S INVISIBLE HAND PLAYS  
STRANGE TRICKS WITH THE JOKER'S  
CAREFUL PLAN. FOR SOON AFTER HE  
LEAVES THE BANK...



AND PRESENTLY...

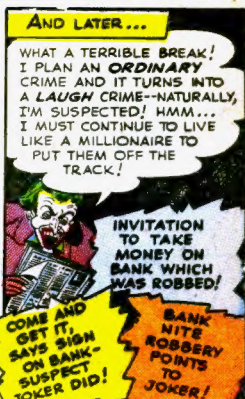
HELLO, BATMAN!  
THIS LOOKS LIKE  
A ROUTINE SAFE-  
CRACKING JOB!  
THE YEGG GOT  
AWAY WITH  
\$200,000!  
WE'LL CHECK UP  
ON ALL KNOWN  
SAFE-CRACKERS  
WHO ARE AT  
LARGE!

I WONDER  
HOW  
"ROUTINE"  
THIS IS,  
COMMISS-  
SIONER  
GORDON!  
TAKE A  
LOOK AT  
THAT SIGN!



THAT SIGN  
FROM A MOVING  
PICTURE THEATRE!  
IT SEEMS TO  
HAVE BEEN  
PUT THERE ON  
PURPOSE!

I GET YOU  
BATMAN!  
IT'S JUST  
THE SORT  
OF THING THE  
JOKER WOULD  
DO IF HE WERE  
ROBBING A  
BANK! HUMOROUS  
LARCENY IS HIS  
TRADEMARK!



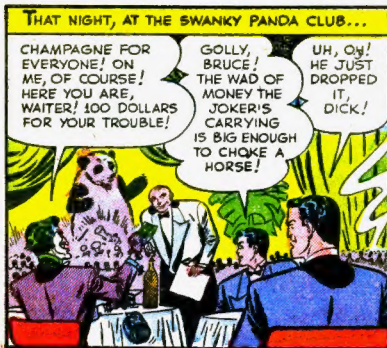
AND LATER...

WHAT A TERRIBLE BREAK!  
I PLAN AN ORDINARY  
CRIME AND IT TURNS INTO  
A LAUGH CRIME-NATURALLY,  
I'M SUSPECTED! MMM...  
I MUST CONTINUE TO LIVE  
LIKE A MILLIONAIRE TO  
PUT THEM OFF THE  
TRACK!

INVITATION  
TO TAKE  
MONEY ON  
BANK WHICH  
WAS ROBBED!

COME AND  
GET IT,  
SAYS SIGN  
ON BANK-  
SUSPECT  
JOKER DID!

BANK  
NITE  
ROBBERY  
POINTS  
TO  
JOKER!

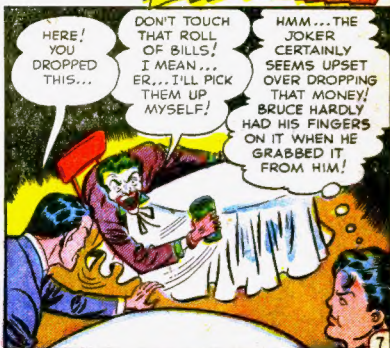


THAT NIGHT, AT THE SWANKY PANDA CLUB...

CHAMPAGNE FOR  
EVERYONE! ON  
ME, OF COURSE!  
HERE YOU ARE,  
WAITER! 100 DOLLARS  
FOR YOUR TROUBLE!

GOLLY,  
BRUCE!  
THE WAD OF  
MONEY THE  
JOKER'S CARRYING  
IS BIG ENOUGH  
TO CHOKA A  
HORSE!

UH, OY!  
HE JUST  
DROPPED  
IT, DICK!



HERE!  
YOU  
DROPPED  
THIS...

DON'T TOUCH  
THAT ROLL  
OF BILLS,  
I MEAN...  
ER... I'LL PICK  
THEM UP  
MYSELF!

HMM...THE  
JOKER  
CERTAINLY  
SEEMS UPSET  
OVER DROPPING  
THAT MONEY!  
BRUCE HARDLY  
HAD HIS FINGERS  
ON IT WHEN HE  
GRABBED IT  
FROM HIM!

LATER, IN THE **BAT-CAVE...**

FROM THE FLEETING GLIMPSE I HAD OF THE JOKER'S ROLL, **ROBIN**, I THOUGHT THERE WAS SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT THE BILLS! THIS TEST CONFIRMS MY SUSPICION, UNDER THE ULTRA-VIOLET LIGHT, THE INK LEFT ON MY FINGERS SHOWS UP--THE MONEY IN THAT ROLL WAS **PHONY!**



IT WAS TOO OBVIOUSLY PHONY TO PASS AS REAL, SO THE JOKER MUST HAVE PUT **GENUINE** BILLS ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE ROLL--THE ONES HE GAVE THE WAITER! THE PHONY MONEY IS USED TO PAD IT--MAKE IT **APPEAR** THAT HE'S WEALTHY!

BUT IF HE'S NOT **REALLY** WEALTHY, **BATMAN**, THEN HE'LL PROBABLY BE PULLING MORE CRIMES!



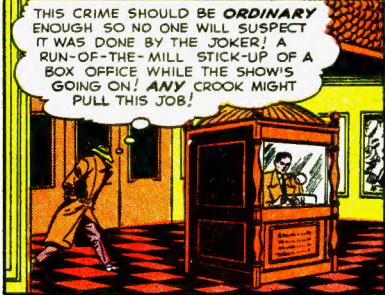
AND AT THIS VERY MOMENT, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY...

PHONY! EVERY BIT OF IT PHONY! EVEN THESE BILLS! BUT NO ONE MUST EVER KNOW OF THE HOAX THAT'S BEEN PULLED ON ME! THAT MEANS I MUST GET BUSY! I STILL NEED \$1,800,000 IN TAX MONEY!



THE FOLLOWING NIGHT, IN THE LOBBY OF THE GOTHAM OPERA HOUSE...

THIS CRIME SHOULD BE **ORDINARY** ENOUGH SO NO ONE WILL SUSPECT IT WAS DONE BY THE JOKER! A RUN-OF-THE-MILL STICK-UP OF A BOX OFFICE WHILE THE SHOW'S GOING ON! **ANY** CROOK MIGHT PULL THIS JOB!



PRESENTLY...

THIS IS A STICK-UP! HAND OVER ALL THE DOUGH!

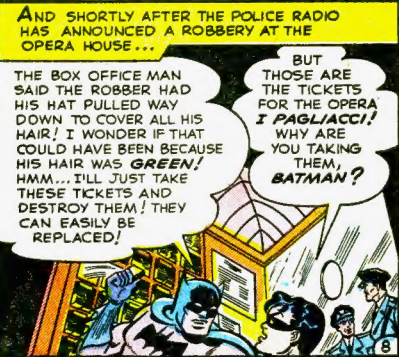
HA, HA! HOW'S THAT FOR A CORNY LINE! NO IMAGINATION! NO ORIGINALITY! NOBODY COULD GUESS THIS IS COMING FROM THE **BRILLIANT** JOKER!



AND SHORTLY AFTER THE POLICE RADIO HAS ANNOUNCED A ROBBERY AT THE OPERA HOUSE...

THE BOX OFFICE MAN SAID THE ROBBER HAD HIS HAT PULLED WAY DOWN TO COVER ALL HIS HAIR! I WONDER IF THAT COULD HAVE BEEN BECAUSE HIS HAIR WAS **GREEN**! HMM... I'LL JUST TAKE THESE TICKETS AND DESTROY THEM! THEY CAN EASILY BE REPLACED!

BUT THOSE ARE THE TICKETS FOR THE OPERA **I PAGLIACCI!** WHY ARE YOU TAKING THEM, **BATMAN**?





THE FOLLOWING EVENING, IN A PLUSH NIGHT CLUB FREQUENTED BY UNDERWORLD BIG SHOTS...

HEY, JOKER! THIS IS DUKE GORMAN! HE JUST BLEW IN FROM THE COAST WITH AN INTRODUCTION FROM THE BIG BOY IN FRISCO! HE'S QUITE A FAN OF YOURS!

YEAH, JOKER! WE'VE HEARD PLenty ABOUT YOU ON THE COAST! I GOT A BIG KICK OUT OF THE JOB YOU PULLED AT THE OPERA HOUSE LAST NIGHT!

JOB? LAST NIGHT? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?



HA, HA! WHO ELSE BUT THE JOKER WOULD TAKE EVERY TICKET FOR **PAGLIACCI**, THE FAMOUS OPERA ABOUT A **CLOWN**! IT'S LITTLE TOUCHES LIKE THAT THAT MAKE YOU A **GREAT CRIMINAL**, JOKER!

WHY...I...ER... I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT! NOTHING!

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW THIS HAPPENED, BUT I MUSTN'T LET ON THAT I PULLED THAT HOLD-UP!



SOON AFTER...

AT LEAST THIS **FAKE** MONEY OF KING BARLOWE'S IS OF **SOME** USE! THIS MANSION I BOUGHT IS COLD AS AN IGLOO AND I CAN'T SPEND ANY OF THE **GENUINE** MONEY FROM MY LAST TWO JOBS TO BUY FUEL TO HEAT IT-- EVERY PENNY'S NEEDED FOR THE INHERITANCE TAX!



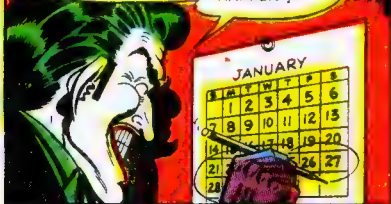
MEANWHILE, IN THE **BAT-CAVE**...

OH, YOU'RE BACK, **BATMAN**! TAKING THOSE **PAGLIACCI** TICKETS SURE MADE THAT BOX-OFFICE ROBBERY LOOK LIKE A JOKER CRIME-- THE PAPERS ARE EATING IT UP! BUT WHAT'S THE POINT?

I'M CERTAIN THE JOKER'S COMMITTING CRIMES, BUT OF THE MOST **ORDINARY** KIND! I CAN'T PROVE THIS BUT I HAVE A PLAN WHICH MAY MAKE THE JOKER CONFESS!

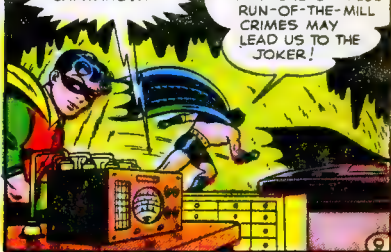


ONLY TWO MORE WEEKS BEFORE THE TAX IS DUE! I MUST PULL SOME MORE JOBS! BUT WHY DO THESE CRIMES, NO MATTER HOW ORDINARY WHEN I EXECUTE THEM, ALWAYS TURN OUT TO HAVE A PRANKISH TWIST WHICH POINTS TO ME? IS IT FATE--OR IS SOMEONE CAUSING THIS TO HAPPEN?



ATTENTION CAR 72! HOLD-UP CORNER OF ELM AND OTTER STREETS! MAN CARRYING...

I'LL EXPLAIN IT LATER, **ROBIN**! MEANWHILE, WE MUST FOLLOW UP EVERY ROUTINE POLICE CALL! ANY ONE OF THESE RUN-OF-THE-MILL CRIMES MAY LEAD US TO THE JOKER!



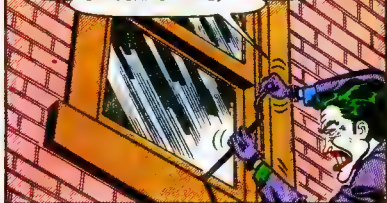
BUT AS THE **CRIME-CRUSHERS** SCOUR THE CITY, THE OBJECT OF THEIR SEARCH IS HIMSELF SEARCHING...

MUST FIND SOMETHING THAT... AH! THIS IS INTERESTING! IT SAYS THE MONEY'S BEING KEPT IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING UNTIL THE CEREMONIES TOMORROW!

**\$50,000 COLLECTED FOR ZOO PROJECT. CASH GIVEN TO HEAD TODAY! TO ZOO FORMAL PRESENTATION TOMORROW!**

THAT NIGHT, OUTSIDE THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AT THE GOTHAM ZOO...

AN ORDINARY BREAKING AND ENTERING JOB! AH, HOW THE MIGHTY HAVE FALLEN! IMAGINE **ME**, THE JOKER STOOPING TO THE USE OF A **JIMMY**--A COMMON BURGLAR'S TOOL!



AND MOMENTS AFTER, IN THE CRUISING **BATMOBILE**...

ATTENTION CAR 24! THIEF SPOOTTED BREAKING AND ENTERING ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AT GOTHAM ZOO! PROCEED AT ONCE!

PROBABLY JUST ANOTHER ROUTINE CRIME, **ROBIN**! BUT WE CAN'T AFFORD TO PASS ANY OF THEM UP! WE NEVER KNOW WHEN WE'LL RUN ACROSS THE JOKER!



SWIFTLY, THE PAIR RACES TO THE CRIME SCENE! AND THERE...

SEEMS LIKE AN ORDINARY JOB! WINDOW JIMMIED OPEN, SAFE BROKEN INTO -- COULD HAVE BEEN ANY ONE OF A DOZEN CRIMINALS WHO HAVE RECORDS FOR THIS SORT OF THING!

GUESS THERE'S NO WAY OF TELLING IF THIS WAS THE JOKER'S WORK OR NOT! OH, GOSH, **BATMAN**! I GOT GREEN PAINT ON MY HANDS! MUST HAVE HAPPENED WHEN WE PASSED THE AVIARY THEY'RE PAINTING!



I SPOTTED SOMEONE RUNNIN' TOWARD THE MONKEY HOUSE! WHEN I PUT MY FLASHLIGHT ON HIM, HE PUT HIS HANDS OVER HIS FACE AND DROPPED THE BOX WITH \$50,000 IN IT! THEN HE GOT AWAY BEFORE I COULD STOP HIM!

A CROOK SO ANXIOUS TO HIDE HIS FACE HE LET GO OF HIS LOOT! SOUNDS INTERESTING! I'M HAVING A LOOK AROUND THE ZOO!



**BATMAN!** WHERE ARE YOU GOING? WAIT FOR ME!

WAIT FOR ME AT THE **BAT-CAVE**, **ROBIN**! THIS MAY BE MY CHANCE TO PUT MY PLAN INTO ACTION!





THE NIGHT PASSES SLOWLY FOR THE BOY IN THE **BAT-CAVE** AND, NEXT MORNING...

GOSH! MORNING AND STILL NO **BATMAN**! WONDER WHAT COULD HAVE DETAINED HIM? I'M GOING BACK TO THE ZOO!

AND SOON AFTER...

HA, HA!  
HA, HA!  
HAW, HAW, HAW!

THERE'S A CROWD ON HAND FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE MONEY FROM THE ANIMAL LOVERS TO THE ZOO! BUT WHAT IN THE WORLD IS EVERYONE LAUGHING AT?

OHHHAHAHA  
HO, HO, HO!  
HEE, HEE, HEE!

**ROBIN'S** QUESTION IS QUICKLY ANSWERED FOR, A MOMENT LATER, INSIDE THE AVIARY WITH ITS CAGES OF FABULOUS BIRDS, THE BOY WONDER IS STUNNED BY A FANTASTIC SIGHT...

≥GASP≤  
**BATMAN!**  
WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HIM?

HA, HA! THE JOKER SURE FOOLED **BATMAN**! HE LOCKED HIM IN THE **BAT CAGE!** HA, HA! INSTEAD OF A BAT-CAVE HE GOT A BAT-**CAGE!**

BATS (CHEIROPTERA)

THE JOKER MUST HAVE PAINTED THAT **WHITE-FACED MONKEY'S** HEAD **GREEN** AND PUT HIM IN THIS CAGE! IN THE DARK, **BATMAN** THOUGHT THE **WHITE FACE** AND **GREEN HAIR** BELONGED TO THE **JOKER!** WHEN HE RUSHED IN, THE JOKER LOCKED THE CAGE!

YOU COULDN'T HAVE FALLEN FOR A GAG LIKE THAT! WHY DON'T YOU TELL THEM IT ISN'T SO?

LATER, IN A PLUSH CRIMINAL HANG-OUT...

HA, HA! WHAT A LAUGH! YOU REALLY MADE A FOOL OUT OF **BATMAN** THIS TIME, JOKER! AFTER THIS, YOUR REPUTATION WILL BE **WORLD WIDE!**

THAT MONKEY PROBABLY ESCAPED AND GOT PAINT ON HIM BY ACCIDENT! STILL, IT WAS A GOOD LAUGH ON **BATMAN!**

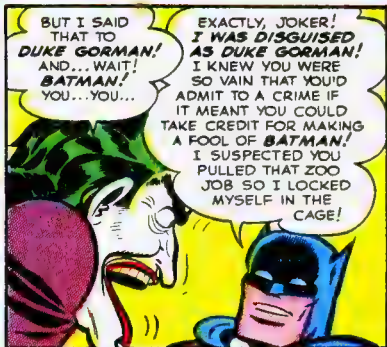
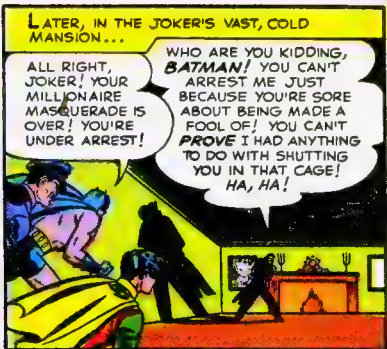
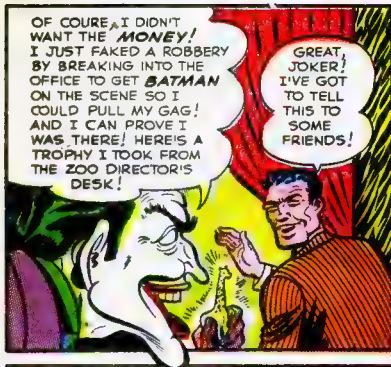
ME! I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT, DUKE!

JOKER MAKES MONKEY OUT OF **BATMAN!** CRIME CRUSHER'S NIGHT IN A BAT CAGE!

THEN WHAT **BATMAN** SAYS ABOUT IT BEING AN ACCIDENT-- THAT YOU HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT--IS RIGHT, JOKER? AND I WAS SURE IT WAS YOU!

I LOST THE LOOT ON THAT JOB-- MIGHT AS WELL GET **SOMETHING** OUT OF IT! AND DUKE SAID THIS WOULD MAKE ME **WORLD-FAMOUS!**

WELL, IF YOU MUST KNOW THE TRUTH, I DID IT!





George Mikan

"Mr. Basketball" Minneapolis Lakers

What sparks  
a Champion  
sparks YOU!

AND CHAMPIONS  
CHOOSE WHEATIES!



IRON

ENERGY

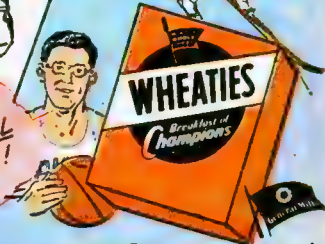
VITAMINS

GUTAWAY  
VIEW OF  
WHEAT  
KERNEL.

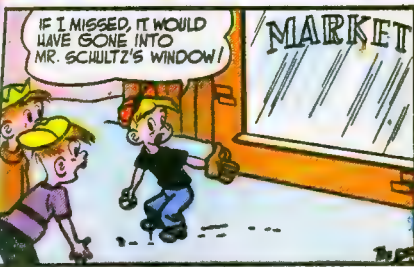
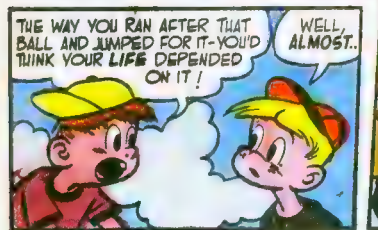
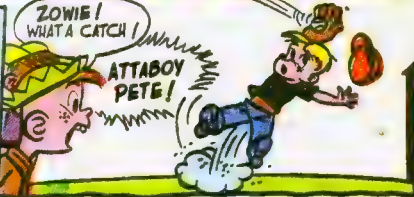
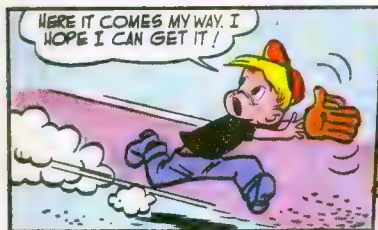
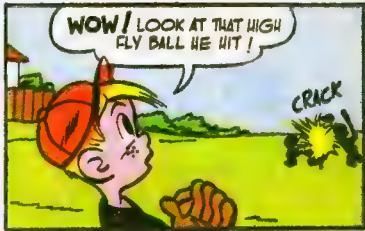
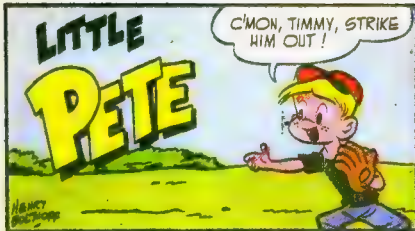
THERE'S A  
WHOLE KERNEL OF WHEAT  
IN EVERY WHEATIES FLAKE!

Every Wheaties flake you eat gives you a whole wheat kernel's worth of energy... the same whole wheat energy the champions want! You want it, too. And you can count on getting it... everytime in Wheaties.

Wheaties  
give you ALL  
the grain!

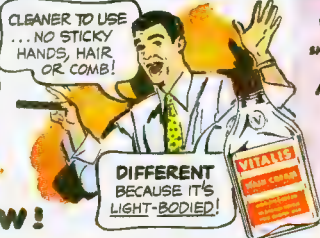


"Breakfast of Champions!"



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— by Bristol-Myers, makers of famous Vitalis

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4 1/2 OZ. SIZE  
SMALL LEADING  
5 OZ. SIZE CREAM  
5 OZ. (ALSO IN  
2 1/2 OZ. SIZE)





RUBEN MOREIRA

ARE YOU SKINNY? UNDER-WEIGHT? SMALL? DON'T LET IT GET YOU DOWN! YOU CAN DEVELOP A TON OF SOCK LIKE A TON OF DYNAMITE! A PUNCH THAT WILL FLOOR A GIANT AND KNOCK THE WORLD FOR A LOOP! YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT? YOU DON'T TRY OUT THE JUST TRY OUT THE COSMIC ENERGY GENERATOR AND SEE FOR YOURSELF! WHICH IS EXACTLY WHAT ROY RAYMOND DID AS HE TRIED TO FATHOM THE SECRET OF...

AT AN AMAZON JUNGLE OUTPOST WHERE ROY RAYMOND, PRODUCER OF TELEVISION'S "IMPOSSIBLE BUT TRUE" SHOW HAS JUST ENDED A FRUITLESS SEARCH FOR PROGRAM MATERIAL...

WHY--THAT'S JON DIRK, THE EXPLORER! HIS EXPEDITION WAS RIGHT BEHIND MINE! WHAT HAPPENED, DOCTOR?

WOUNDED BY SAVAGES ON THE VERY SPOT YOU MADE CAMP LAST NIGHT! AMAZING THEY DIDN'T ATTACK YOU, RAYMOND!

GUESS I WAS LUCKY! THOSE BLUE LIPS! IS HE--?

DEAD? NO! CERTAIN SNAKE POISONS THE SAVAGES USE WILL PRODUCE SUCH SYMPTOMS. BUT DIRK'S GOT A TOUGH CONSTITUTION! HE'LL PULL THROUGH!



**THE MAN WITH THE COSMIC PUNCH!**

**A WEEK LATER, BACK HOME, ROY DISCUSSES HIS WASTED TRIP WITH HIS SECRETARY, KAREN...**

OF COURSE, KAREN-- I DON'T MIND DANGER IF I CAN GET MATERIAL FOR THE SHOW, BUT RISKING THAT SAVAGE JUNGLE WAS A WASTE. I THINK I'LL CONFINED MY SEARCH TO CIVILIZATION FOR A WHILE!

MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT!



OF COURSE, IT'S JUST A PUBLICITY STUNT FOR THIS SHOW-- BUT EVEN SO-- IT'S UNUSUAL!

SPEAKING OF THE UNUSUAL-- LOOK THERE!



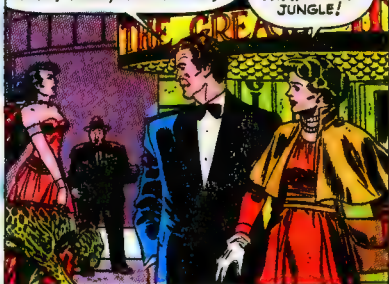
SEE-- ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN! NOW LOOK! THAT LITTLE GUY IS THREATENING THE GIANT! IS HE CRAZY?

HEY, YOU BIG OAF! YOU GOT NO RIGHT TO BUST THIS MAN'S TRUCK!



SURE I'M RIGHT! MORE CRAZY THINGS HAPPEN IN BIG CITIES THAN THE JUNGLE ANYWAY, IF YOU JUST KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN! THERE, FOR EXAMPLE!

GRACIOUS! YOU'D CERTAINLY NEVER SEE THAT IN THE JUNGLE!



BUT YOU JARRED THE LADDER YOURSELF AND SPILLED THE PAINT! HEY--WHAT'RE YOU DOING TO MY TRUCK?

GREAT SCOTT! THAT GIANT'S GOT THE STRENGTH OF TEN MEN! HE'S SO MAD HE'S BASHING THE FENDER WITH ONE BLOW!



WHAT? LITTLE FLEA LIKE YOU TELL GREGOR WHAT TO DO?

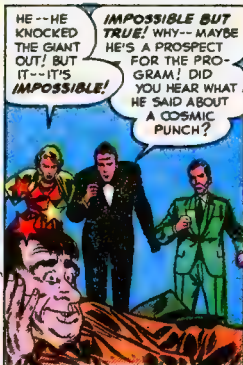
I WARN YOU! DON'T FORCE ME TO USE MY COSMIC PUNCH! YOU'LL BE SORRY!



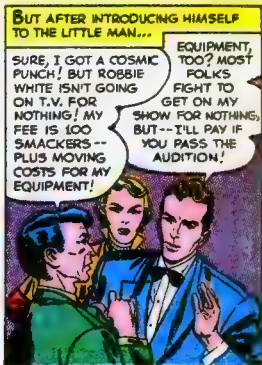




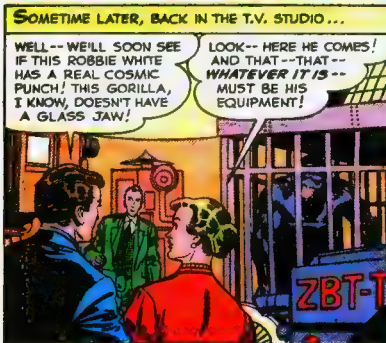
HE'S INSANE, PROVOKING THAT BIG BRUTE! HE'LL BE--**HUM??** YOU ASKED FOR IT!



HE--HE KNOCKED THE GIANT OUT! BUT IT--IT'S **IMPOSSIBLE!** **IMPOSSIBLE BUT TRUE!** WHY--MAYBE HE'S A PROSPECT FOR THE PROGRAM! DID YOU HEAR WHAT HE SAID ABOUT A COSMIC PUNCH?



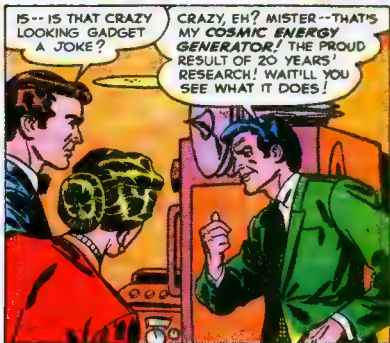
**BUT AFTER INTRODUCING HIMSELF TO THE LITTLE MAN...** SURE, I GOT A COSMIC PUNCH! BUT ROBBIE WHITE ISN'T GOING ON T.V. FOR NOTHING! MY FEE IS 100 SMACKERS--PLUS MOVING COSTS FOR MY EQUIPMENT! EQUIPMENT, TOO? MOST FOLKS FIGHT TO GET ON MY SHOW FOR NOTHING, BUT--I'LL PAY IF YOU PASS THE AUDITION!



**SOMETIME LATER, BACK IN THE T.V. STUDIO...**

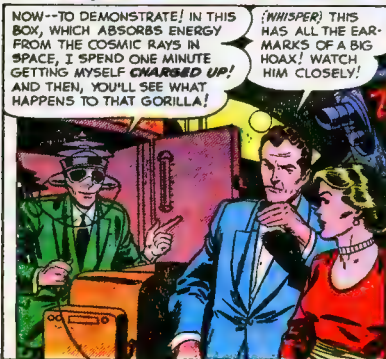
WELL--WE'LL SOON SEE IF THIS ROBBIE WHITE HAS A REAL COSMIC PUNCH! THIS GORILLA, I KNOW, DOESN'T HAVE A GLASS JAW!

LOOK--HERE HE COMES! AND THAT--THAT--**WHATEVER IT IS--** MUST BE HIS EQUIPMENT!



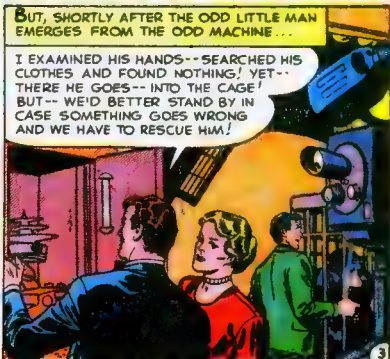
IS--IS THAT CRAZY LOOKING GADGET A JOKE?

CRAZY, EH? MISTER--THAT'S MY **COSMIC ENERGY GENERATOR!** THE PROUD RESULT OF 20 YEARS' RESEARCH! WAIT'LL YOU SEE WHAT IT DOES!



NOW--TO DEMONSTRATE! IN THIS BOX, WHICH ABSORBS ENERGY FROM THE COSMIC RAYS IN SPACE, I SPEND ONE MINUTE GETTING MYSELF **CHARGED UP!** AND THEN, YOU'LL SEE WHAT HAPPENS TO THAT GORILLA!

(WHISPER) THIS HAS ALL THE EAR-MARKS OF A BIG HOAX! WATCH HIM CLOSELY!



**BUT, SHORTLY AFTER THE ODD LITTLE MAN EMERGES FROM THE ODD MACHINE...**

I EXAMINED HIS HANDS--SEARCHED HIS CLOTHES AND FOUND NOTHING! YET--THERE HE GOES--INTO THE CAGE! BUT--WE'D BETTER STAND BY IN CASE SOMETHING GOES WRONG AND WE HAVE TO RESCUE HIM!

AND SUDDENLY--THERE SEEMS TO BE TROUBLE INSIDE THE CAGE...

UH-UH! JUST WHAT I WAS AFRAID OF! I'D BETTER GET HIM OUT BEFORE THE GORILLA GETS HIM!

NO-NO! DON'T LET MY RUNNING FOOL YOU! I'M ONLY LOOKING FOR AN OPENING!



AFTERWARDS, AS ROY TRIES TO FATHOM ROBBIE WHITE'S SECRET...

GIVE UP, RAYMOND! EVEN SCIENTIFIC GENIUSES COULDN'T FIGURE OUT HOW MY COMPLICATED MACHINE WORKS-- WITHOUT MY HELP!

HM--I'LL BET YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT--WELL-- SINCE THE GORILLA'S RECOVERED--WE CAN REPEAT THIS AUDITION ON TONIGHT'S SHOW!



AND THE TEST? A SPECIALLY ARRANGED EXHIBITION MATCH WITH THE HEAVYWEIGHT BOXING CHAMP WHICH PACKS THE STADIUM WITH CURIOUS FANS...

THAT BOX Baffles ME. I'D WAIT BEFORE INVESTING, SIR, EVEN IF HE DOES BEAT THE CHAMP!

AND HAVE OTHERS BEAT ME TO IT? NO SIR! I'VE GOT SCIENTISTS AND OTHER OBSERVERS ALL WATCHING CAREFULLY AT THE RINGSIDE! DON'T WORRY--I'M NO FOOL!



ABRUPTLY, THE AMAZING LITTLE MAN PROVES TRUE TO HIS WORD!

SUFFERING CATFISH! HE--HE--DID IT!



AND 20 MINUTES AFTER ROBBIE AGAIN DEMONSTRATES HIS COSMIC PUNCH FOR THE TELEVISION AUDIENCE, A VISITOR RUSHES INTO THE STUDIO...

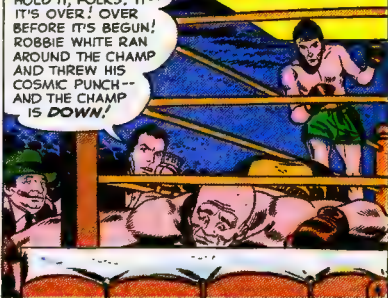
AS A HARD-HEADED BUSINESS MAN, I NATURALLY REFUSED TO CONSIDER YOUR WILD CLAIMS. BUT, AFTER SEEING THIS PROGRAM, I CHANGED MY MIND. I'LL PAY \$50,000 FOR PRODUCTION RIGHTS TO YOUR MACHINE-- PROVIDED YOU MEET ONE MORE PUBLIC TEST I SHALL ARRANGE!

FINE!



A MOMENT LATER, AS THE BELL OPENS THE FIRST ROUND...

HOLD IT, FOLKS! IT-- IT'S OVER! OVER BEFORE IT'S BEGUN! ROBBIE WHITE RAN AROUND THE CHAMP AND THREW HIS COSMIC PUNCH-- AND THE CHAMP IS DOWN!





AS THE CROWD ROARS, ROY AND KAREN STAND THOUGHTFULLY AT THE RINOSIDE, GAZING AT THE FALLEN CHAMP...

IT'S AMAZING! DIDN'T EVEN HAVE A CHANCE! HM--I HOPE HE'S ALL RIGHT. NOTICE HOW BLUE HIS LIPS ARE?

I NOTICED ALREADY. REMINDS ME OF SOMETHING TOO. SOMETHING I SAW ON MY LAST TRIP TO THE AMAZON... I'VE GOT TO DO SOME FAST THINKING...



NEXT MORNING, AFTER A SLEEPLESS AND THOUGHTFUL NIGHT, ROY GETS ON THE TELEPHONE AND TALKS TO THE BUSINESSMAN...

WHAT? ROBBIE WON'T HAVE ANY OUTSIDER PRESENT WHEN YOU SIGN THE CONTRACT? BUT--YOU MAY BE CHEATED...IMPOSSIBLE? BUT--IF I CAN MAKE ONE MORE TEST...NOT NECESSARY? BUT--ER--LOOK--I'VE GOT A BETTER COSMIC MACHINE THAN HIS!!



WHILE ON THE OTHER END OF THE LINE...

IT'S RAYMOND! HE CLAIMS HE'S GOT A BETTER COSMIC GENERATOR THAN YOU! UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, I THINK I OUGHT TO SEE HIM BEFORE WE SIGN THE CONTRACT!

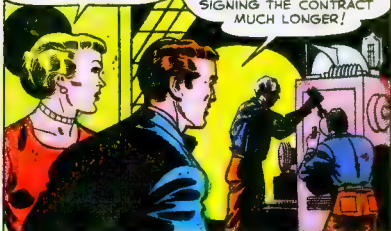
A BETTER MACHINE? IS HE CRAZY? HA-HA! THE CHUMP! SURE--LET HIM COME! THIS'LL BE A PLEASURE!



ONE HOUR LATER, AT ROY'S STUDIO, AS HE SUPERVISES A STRANGE CONSTRUCTION JOB...

BUT, ROY--JUST SLAPPING TOGETHER A CRAZY MACHINE LIKE THAT! I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

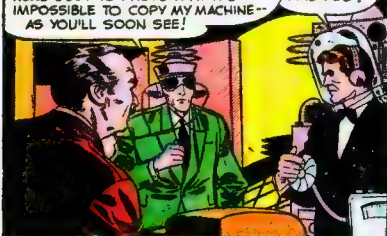
IT LOOKS CRAZY--BUT IT'LL WORK FOR MY PURPOSES! HURRY, MEN! THEY WON'T HOLD UP SIGNING THE CONTRACT MUCH LONGER!



PRESENTLY, IN THE FACTORY, WHERE ROY, WITH HIS MACHINE GETS READY TO PIT HIS COSMIC PUNCH AGAINST THAT OF ROBBIE'S!

SO YOU COPIED MY MACHINE AND MADE A MORE ELABORATE COPY! HA-HA! WELL--I LET YOU BRING IT HERE JUST TO PROVE THAT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO COPY MY MACHINE--AS YOU'LL SOON SEE!

WE WILL! I'M ALL CHARGED UP NOW! ARE YOU?

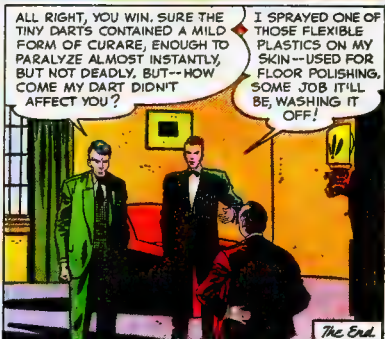
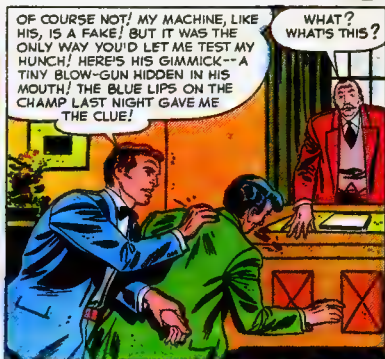


AND SO, ON THE FACTORY FLOOR, WITH AN AUDIENCE OF ONE, BEGINS THE BATTLE OF THE CENTURY--COSMIC PUNCH VS. COSMIC PUNCH...

ALL RIGHT, RAYMOND--THIS IS IT! DOWN YOU GO!

HUH? WHY--IT DIDN'T BOTHER HIM A BIT!





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**OUT OF THIS WORLD** by Necco

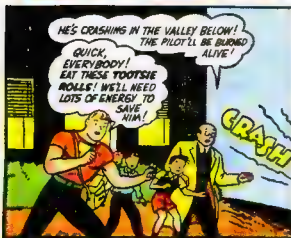
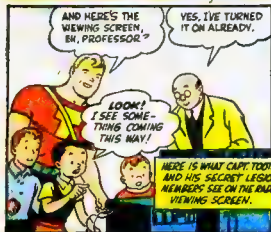
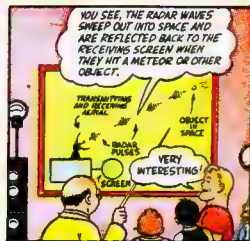
**T**HE TAIL OF A COMET ALWAYS  
POINTS AWAY FROM THE SUN  
NO MATTER WHICH WAY THE  
COMET IS HEADING.

**T**HIS MEANS THAT AT  
TIMES THE TAIL LEADS  
THE COMET.





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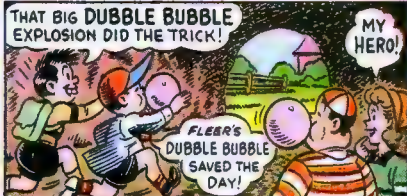
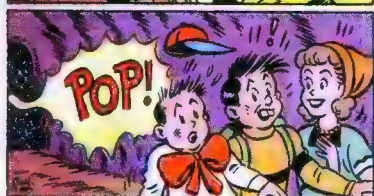
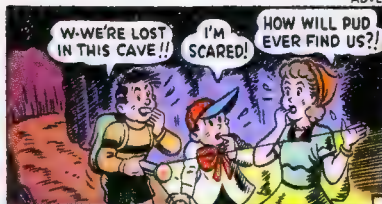
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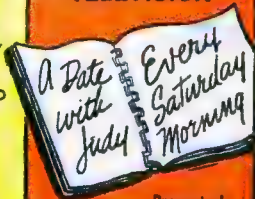
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AN EMPTY SUIT OF ARMOR KILLS TO CLEAR THE WAY FOR BURGLARS...A CAST-IRON APE PROVOKES PANIC TO CONCEAL A CUNNING ROBBERY! AND AS FURTHER FANTASTIC 'ACCIDENTS' THREATEN, ROBOTMAN'S BRILLIANT HUMAN BRAIN MUST INVENT NEW USES FOR THE MECHANICAL MARVELS OF HIS METAL BODY, TO KEEP THE SPECTACULAR CREATIONS OF A FAMOUS DESIGNER FROM BECOMING...

"DISPLAYS  
*for*  
CRIME!"

NIGHT IN AN EXCLUSIVE ART GALLERY...AND AS A WATCHMAN MOVES THROUGH TREASURE-FILLED ROOMS...

WHAT...?? THE ARMORED FIGURE IN SPARLING'S NEW DECORATIVE DISPLAY... IT... IT'S COMING RIGHT FOR ME!



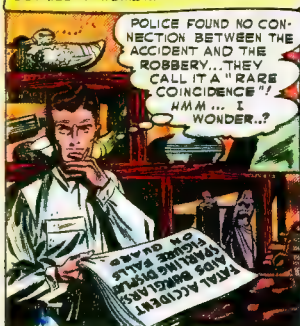
NEXT MORNING...

HE DIED INSTANTLY, I THINK! WHAT A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT!

ACCIDENT? THAT HARDLY EXPLAINS WHY A SET OF PRICELESS GOLD CANDLESTICKS IS MISSING! CALL THE POLICE!



LATER, AS PAUL DENNIS READS THE DETAILS AT HOME...



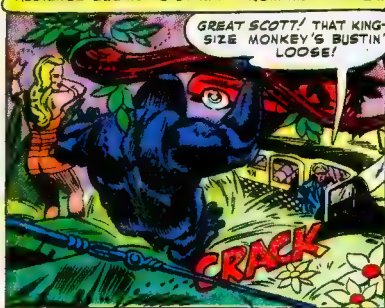
POLICE FOUND NO CONNECTION BETWEEN THE ACCIDENT AND THE ROBBERY...THEY CALL IT A "RARE COINCIDENCE"! HMM... I WONDER...?

THAT EVENING AS PAUL WATCHES THE OPENING OF A NEW PLAY...



ANOTHER OF STEPHEN SPARLING'S EYE-CATCHING ADVERTISING DISPLAYS... AND THERE'S SPARLING HIMSELF! HE'S ALMOST AS SPECTACULAR AS HIS CREATIONS, IN A DIFFERENT WAY!

TWO HOURS PASS... THE PLAY ENDS... AND AS THE AUDIENCE BEGINS TO STREAM FROM THE THEATRE...



GREAT SCOTT! THAT KING-SIZE MONKEY'S BUSTIN' LOOSE!

THE MARQUEE COLLAPSES BENEATH THE PLUNGING CAST-IRON MONSTROSITY... AND IN THE SUDDENLY-DARKENED LOBBY...



WE'RE TRAPPED! THAT THING'S COMING AFTER US!

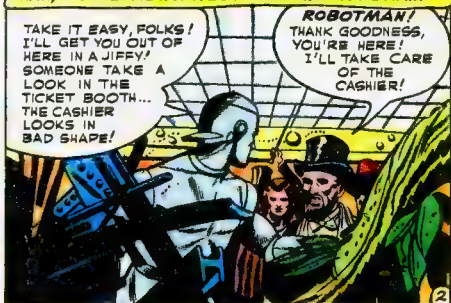
FREEE-EEEE! I'M GOING TO PAINT!

BEHIND A DISPLAY, PAUL DENNIS HASTILY DOFFS HIS PLASTIC HUMAN DISGUISE...



GOT TO ACT FAST, BEFORE THE CROWD PANICS!

AND A SPLIT SECOND LATER, HE DARTS FORTH AS ROBOT-MAN, THE METAL MARVEL WITH THE HUMAN BRAIN!



TAKE IT EASY, FOLKS! I'LL GET YOU OUT OF HERE IN A JIFFY! SOMEONE TAKE A LOOK IN THE TICKET BOOTH... THE CASHIER LOOKS IN BAD SHAPE!

ROBOTMAN! THANK GOODNESS, YOU'RE HERE! I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE CASHIER!



**SWIFTLY, THE MIGHTY MAN OF METAL CLEARS THE TWISTED WRECKAGE...**

ONCE THEY SEE THEY'RE NOT TRAPPED, THE PEOPLE WILL CALM DOWN!

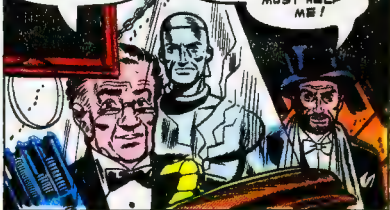
THE CASHIER'S BADLY HURT! I'LL GET A POLICEMAN... SOMEBODY CALL AN AMBULANCE!



**LATER, AS THE THEATRE MANAGER SURVEYS THE DAMAGE...**

THE MONEY'S GONE... THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS! IT WAS IN A CANVAS BANK SATCHEL! NOW COULD ANYONE HAVE CARRIED IT OUT UNNOTICED?

I--I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! ANOTHER TRAGEDY CAUSED BY ONE OF MY DISPLAYS!... AND ANOTHER ROBBERY! SOME OF MY WORKMEN MUST BE RIGGING THEM FOR CRIME! **ROBOTMAN**, YOU MUST HELP ME!



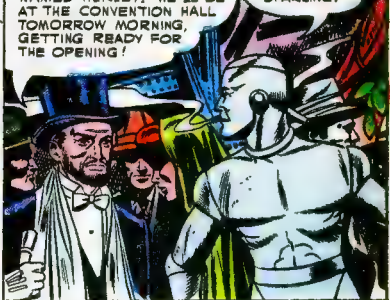
MY BUSINESS IS HELPING THE LAW, SPARLING! IF CROOKS ARE USING YOUR DESIGNS FOR ROBBERIES, I'LL TRY TO STOP THAT! WHAT ASSIGNMENT ARE YOU WORKING ON NOW?

THE **BANKERS' CONVENTION**... A BIG, LAVISH JOB! AND ONE OF THE EXHIBITS WILL BE A SAFE CONTAINING \$100,000!



I DON'T TRUST ONE OF MY ELECTRICIANS... A MAN NAMED HURLEY! HE'LL BE AT THE CONVENTION HALL TOMORROW MORNING, GETTING READY FOR THE OPENING!

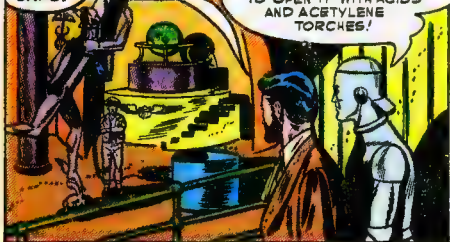
GOOD... I'LL BE THERE TOO, SPARLING!



**AND EARLY THE FOLLOWING DAY, IN THE CONVENTION HALL...**

THAT'S HURLEY, ON THE PLATFORM BY THE MODEL OF THE NEW THIEF-PROOF SAFE!

I READ ABOUT IT! TO DEMONSTRATE IT, THE MANUFACTURER'S PUTTING \$100,000 INSIDE, WHILE ATTEMPTS ARE MADE TO OPEN IT WITH ACIDS AND ACETYLENE TORCHES!



MY COLOSSAL FIGURE OF MERCURY IN FLIGHT WILL BE HOISTED INTO THE DOME ANY MINUTE! BUT RIGHT NOW, I'VE GOT TO MAKE A PHONE CALL!

MADE OF HOLLOW SHEET ALUMINUM, EH? I'LL LOOK IT OVER, TO MAKE SURE NOBODY'S RIGGED IT FOR ANOTHER "ACCIDENT"!



AND AS ROBOTMAN CLIMBS INSIDE THE HUGE METAL IMAGE OF THE ANCIENT ROMAN IDOL...

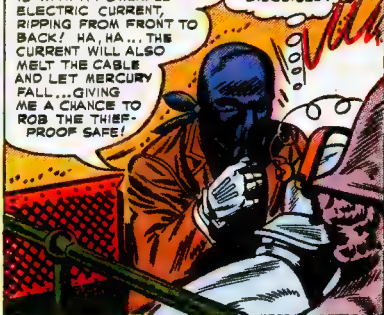
HMM... ELECTRICAL COILS AND WIRING INSIDE THE HEAD, AND... OH, OH... AN ELECTRO-MAGNET'S GOT ME! I CAN'T MOVE!

NO USE TRYING TO, ROBOTMAN! THE SUREST WAY TO CATCH A METAL MAN IS WITH POWERFUL MAGNETISM!



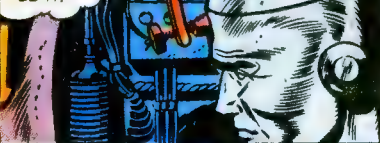
AND THE SUREST WAY TO DESTROY YOUR HUMAN BRAIN IS WITH A POWERFUL ELECTRIC CURRENT, RIPPING FROM FRONT TO BACK! HA, HA... THE CURRENT WILL ALSO MELT THE CABLE AND LET MERCURY FALL... GIVING ME A CHANCE TO ROB THE THIEF-PROOF SAFE!

HE'S MASKED... AND HIS VOICE IS DISGUISED!



AND WHEN THE MYSTERY MAN DEPARTS...

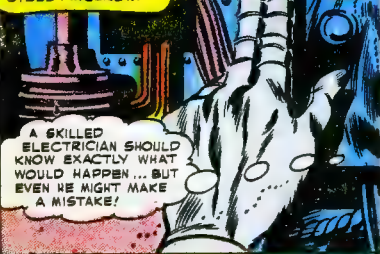
THE FIGURE'S BEING LIFTED NOW... TO BE DROPPED! BUT HOW COULD A PIECE OF SOFT SHEET ALUMINUM HELP A CROOK GET MONEY FROM A THIEF-PROOF SAFE? HMM... ONLY ONE WAY I CAN FIGURE OUT... YES, THAT MUST BE IT!



BUT HOW CAN I PREVENT IT? I CAN BARELY WIGGLE MY FINGERS! AND IF I STRETCHED THEM TO SHORT-CIRCUIT THE WIRES, IT WOULD SEND A FATAL CHARGE THROUGH MY BRAIN... HE SAYS!

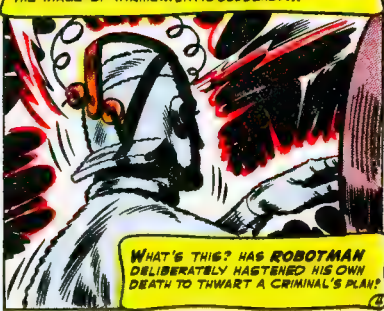


WHAT WILL THE METAL LAWMAN DO? SLOWLY, PAINFULLY, HE MANAGES TO LENGTHEN TWO OF HIS TELESCOPIC STEEL FINGERS...



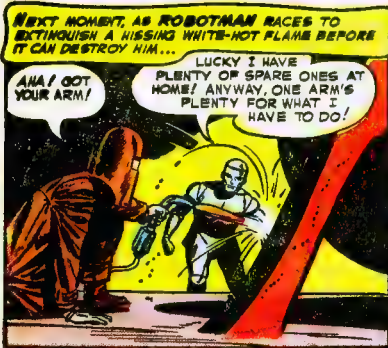
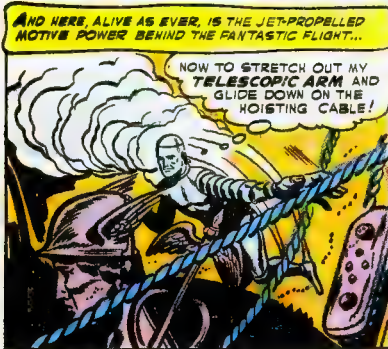
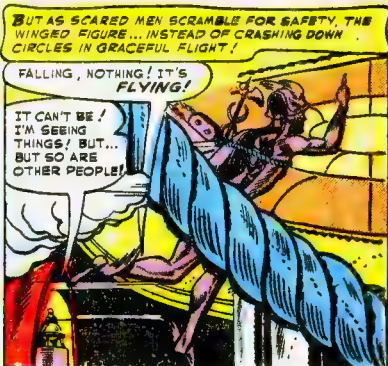
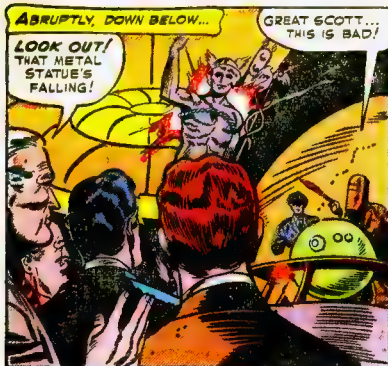
A SKILLED ELECTRICIAN SHOULD KNOW EXACTLY WHAT WOULD HAPPEN... BUT EVEN HE MIGHT MAKE A MISTAKE!

RESOLUTELY, THE EXTENDED FINGERS PROBE INTO THE MAZE OF WIRING... UNTIL SUDDENLY...



WHAT'S THIS? HAS ROBOTMAN DELIBERATELY HASTENED HIS OWN DEATH TO THWART A CRIMINAL'S PLAN?

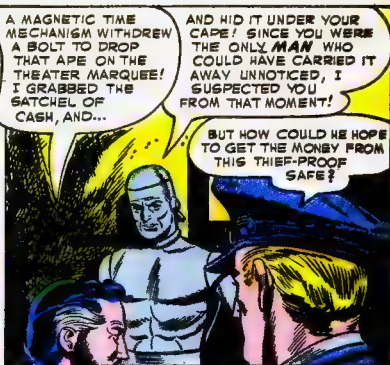






YOU'RE THROUGH, SPARKING! FEEL LIKE TALKING ABOUT IT?

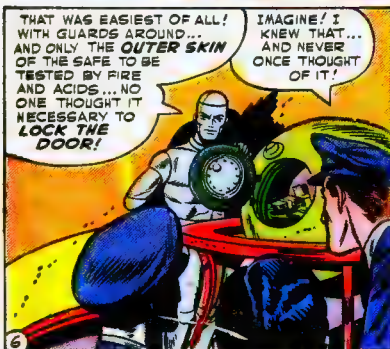
WHY NOT? BAD INVESTMENTS WERE RUINING ME! AN ELECTRIC-EYE TRIGGER TOPPLED THE ARMORED FIGURE WHEN THE ART GALLERY WATCH-MAN BROKE THE BEAM ... PERMITTING ME TO BREAK IN WITHOUT INTERFERENCE!



A MAGNETIC TIME MECHANISM WITHDREW A BOLT TO DROP THAT APE ON THE THEATER MARQUEE! I GRABBED THE SATCHEL OF CASH, AND...

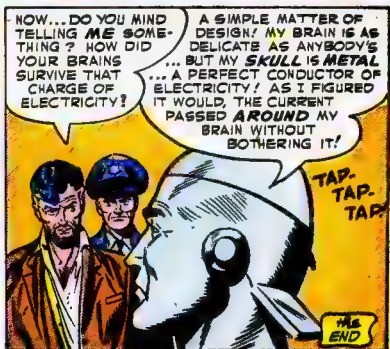
AND HID IT UNDER YOUR CAPE! SINCE YOU WERE THE ONLY MAN WHO COULD HAVE CARRIED IT AWAY UNNOTICED, I SUSPECTED YOU FROM THAT MOMENT!

BUT HOW COULD HE HOPE TO GET THE MONEY FROM THIS THIEF-PROOF SAFE?



THAT WAS EASIEST OF ALL! WITH GUARDS AROUND... AND ONLY THE OUTER SKIN OF THE SAFE TO BE TESTED BY FIRE AND ACIDS... NO ONE THOUGHT IT NECESSARY TO LOCK THE DOOR!

IMAGINE! I KNEW THAT... AND NEVER ONCE THOUGHT OF IT!



NOW... DO YOU MIND TELLING ME SOMETHING? HOW DID YOUR BRAINS SURVIVE THAT CHARGE OF ELECTRICITY?

A SIMPLE MATTER OF DESIGN! MY BRAIN IS AS DELICATE AS ANYBODY'S ... BUT MY SKULL IS METAL ... A PERFECT CONDUCTOR OF ELECTRICITY! AS I FIGURED IT WOULD, THE CURRENT PASSED AROUND MY BRAIN WITHOUT BOTHERING IT!

TAP-TAP-TAP

THE END

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 233) OF DETECTIVE COMICS, published Monthly at New York, N. Y. for Oct. 1, 1951.

1. The names and addresses of the Publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager are: Publisher, National Comics Publications, Inc., 480 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.; Editor, F. W. Ellsworth, 480 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.; Managing Editor, none; Business Manager, J. S. Liebowitz, 480 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.  
2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.) National Comics Publications, Inc., H. Donenfeld, J. S. Liebowitz, P. H. Sampliner, G. Donenfeld, R. Liebowitz, S. U. Sampliner, J. S. Liebowitz & A. I. Menin as Trustees for I. Donenfeld and S. Donenfeld, A. I. Menin & J. I. Golinko as Trustees for L. Liebowitz and J. Liebowitz, A. Donenfeld, F. Iger, H. Donenfeld Foundation, Inc., all at 480 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

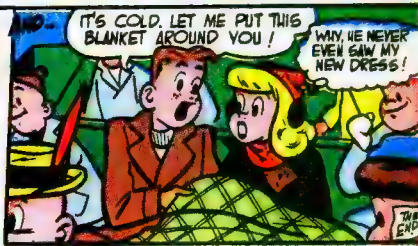
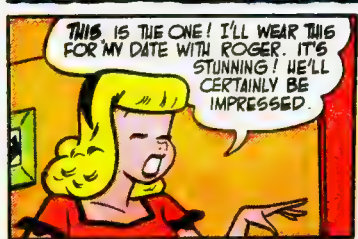
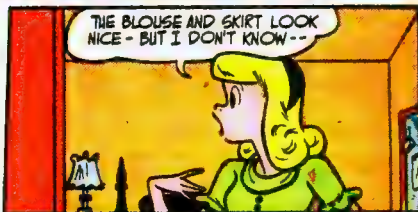
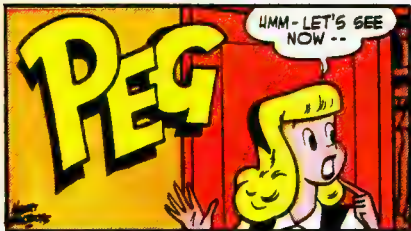
3. The known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: none.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs shows the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

J. S. LIEBOWITZ, Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of September, 1951. ALFRED E. YAFFE, Notary Public (Commission expires March 30, 1952).

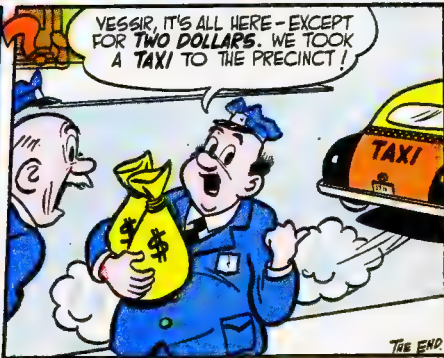
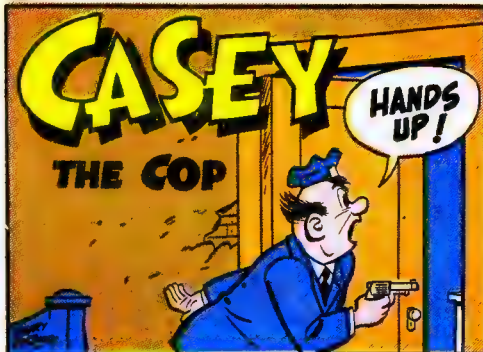




ADVERTISEMENT

WILD WEST CHARLIE HAS A **LUCKY LUDEN'S TIP...**









# MILLION-DOLLAR BURGLARIES

**I**N the "good old days" of about 75 years ago, bank burglars lived in style. They gave lavish parties with sensational entertainment; they lived in the finest homes and drove the handsomest horses through the best neighborhoods. This was a great life while it lasted, but it usually lasted none too long. For every one of these fabulous felons wound up in jail.

Three gangs, in particular, lived especially glorious lives (until they were captured). They could live so well because they pulled off three of the world's largest bank-vault robberies. Proceeds from the smallest of these reached a million and a quarter dollars; the loot from the largest went over two and three-quarter millions!

What is the story of these spectacular successes of the thieving trade? Who engineered them, and how did they work? Let's start with the earliest and see what was done. . . .

Max Shimburn was a successful safecracker who decided one day to see if he could transfer some of the money from the vaults of the Ocean National Bank in New York City to his own pockets. He explained the idea to a likable crook named White. White agreed to go partners, and started to become friendly with the bank employees. He found that a young teller by the name of Franklin could be corrupted. So White and Franklin became great chums.

Finally, they were friendly enough for White to explain his idea. He suggested

that it might be possible for Franklin to get the combination of the safe by strolling past just as the bank president was opening it. Franklin agreed to help rob the bank, but he explained that he could not get the combination because everyone had to stay at his own desk during the opening of the safe. Since Franklin's desk was 18 feet from the safe, he could not possibly read the figures on the dial.

Informed of this, Shimburn disguised himself as a banker and hastened to buy a safe just like the one in the Ocean National Bank. This he set up in his apartment, and 18 feet away he placed a chair. Then he told White to give Franklin a concentrated course in long-distance safe-dial reading.

For six weeks, Franklin practiced, until one night he read off perfectly every number that White spun. Next morning, Franklin studied the bank president's twirl of the combination of the safe.

White and Shimburn opened a fake insurance office right below the bank, which was on the first floor of its building. They gathered their tools, and one stormy Saturday night they started to chop their way upwards.

A fourteen-inch concrete floor stopped them dead. So they repaired the ceiling and waited for another noisy night.

It came on June 27, 1869, when a thunderstorm drowned out the noise of the gang's blasting through the concrete to the president's office. From there, they march-

ed into the vault room, opened the safe with the combination, and escaped with \$2,550,000.

White and Franklin were soon caught, but Shinburn went to France where he played at being a count until his funds ran low. He came back to America with the idea of relieving some more banks of their assets, but instead was relieved himself of his freedom when he was arrested at the pier.

Six and one-half years later, the "Great Northampton Bank Robbery"—the most publicized burglary of that era—took place.

Scar-faced Tom Dunlap and Bob Scott, two of the most notorious bank burglars of that day, were in need of money. They also found that bank vaults were getting harder to break into. So they decided that instead of crashing the vaults, they would break the bank officers.

They talked Edson, an employee of a safe company, into going in with them. While pretending to be inspecting the vaults of a bank in Quincy, Illinois, Edson made wax impressions of the four keys needed to get into the bank and the vault room. From these, he was able to make duplicate keys. Next, he persuaded the bank officials to give the complete combination of the safe to the treasurer of the bank. Previously, two men had each held a part of the combination—not one knew the whole thing. Finally, Edson discovered that the night watchman went home at 4 a.m. With this groundwork laid, the gang was set to roll.

On the evening of January 25, 1876, they broke into the treasurer's home and forced him to give them the safe combination. Then, tying him so that he could give no alarm, they went to the bank, waited for the watchman to leave. With their four keys, they entered the vault room, and with their combination, they opened the safe. They lifted \$1,250,000 in cash and bonds from the safe, and made their getaway.

All was gray for a year until one of the gang members tried to sell some of the stolen bonds. With this as a clue, the police traced him. He revealed the loca-

tion of his friends, and shortly afterwards they were all behind bars.

This burglary, incidentally, led to the widespread use of the time lock, by which a safe cannot be opened until a certain hour. Thus, even if criminals forced a bank official to give them the combination, it would do them no good until the hour that the time lock was due to go off.

The last case was the biggest. It was masterminded by George Leonidas Leslie—probably the most infamous bank burglar of all time. Leslie was so well regarded by the members of his illegal profession that he was often hired as a consultant by other bank burglars. In one case, he charged a gang \$20,000 to case a bank—and then advised against the job. They took his advice, too!

Leslie carefully planned his jobs. He got building plans and studied them. He watched bank-guards and night watchmen to learn their habits. He read financial pages of the newspapers to note when the most amount of money might be in the banks. And then when all was set—he struck.

He hit a Manhattan bank on the night of October 27, 1878. He had planned to open the safe by drilling, but an error of one-eighth of an inch caused failure of this attempt. Leslie, however, had a new ace up his sleeve, an ace which had never before been used in bank burglaries.

He sealed the crack between the door and the jamb with yellow laundry soap, leaving only a little space open at the top. Into this space he poured—nitroglycerin! The loud explosion ripped the steel door off its hinges. Leslie and his gang strolled into the vault and made off with \$2,747,000. The world's biggest burglary had gone off without a hitch.

But, after working on the case for several years, the police finally caught up with all members of the Leslie mob and sent them to jail with stiff sentences.

All three of these super-robberies brought wealth for a brief time to the men who engineered them, but in the end the men themselves were robbed of their most precious possession—freedom!

—by David Kahn



# POW-WOW SMITH



WHEN MURDERERS' ARROWS FLY IN THE SHADOW OF A LEGENDARY MOUNTAIN, FOLLOWING A TRAGIC PLANE CRASH, ONLY OHIYESA (THE WINNER) -- FAMED AMONG PALEFACES AS POW-WOW SMITH-- REFUSES TO SUSPECT HIS SIOUX CLANSMEN! BUT AS SLENDER CLUES LEAD THE GREAT INDIAN LAWMAN INTO UNSUSPECTED PERIL, HE FINDS HE MUST DUPLICATE A CELEBRATED ANCESTOR'S "IMPOSSIBLE" EXPLOIT, TO DISCOVER...

## The GHOST CHIEF'S SECRET!"

NIGHTTIME NEAR RED DEER VALLEY, AS AGED WHITE BEAR RELATES THE LEGEND OF GHOST CHIEF MOUNTAIN TO OHIYESA (THE WINNER)...

ONLY THE GHOST CHIEF'S MAGIC ENABLED CHIEF **BROKEN BLADE**, YOUR GREAT-GRANDFATHER, TO SCALE THAT UNCONQUERED PEAK, OHIYESA!

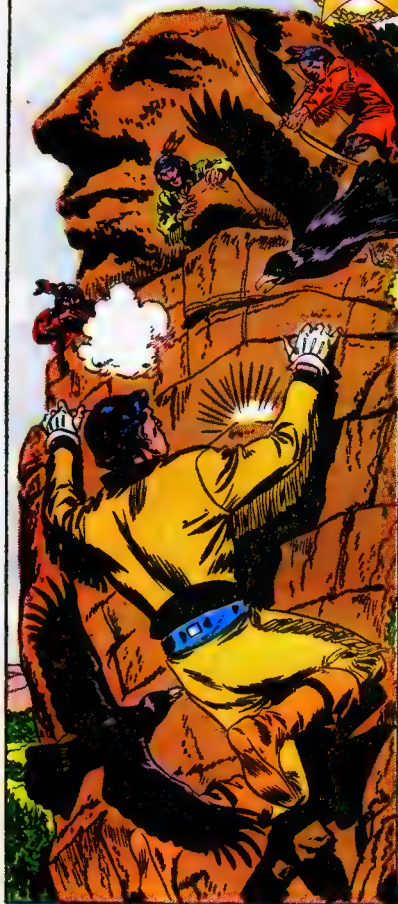
SHOULDN'T THE ENEMIES WHO CHASED **BROKEN BLADE** GET SOME CREDIT FOR HIS FEAT?



ALL OF A SUDDEN...

AI-EE! THE GHOST CHIEF SHOUTS IN ANGER!

WORSE THAN THAT, **WHITE BEAR**-- HE'S WRECKED A PLANE! NOT MUCH HOPE FOR ANYONE ABOARD-- BUT I'LL RUSH OVER THERE!



TO PALEFACE LAWMAN, OHYESA IS KNOWN AS POW-WOW SMITH, DEPUTY SHERIFF. AND WHEN HE ARRIVES AT THE SCENE OF THE EXPLOSION...

EVENIN'. POW-WOW! FINE NIGHT FOR TROUBLE!

BE GLAD IT'S RAINING, WARDEN, OR YOU'D HAVE A FOREST FIRE, TOO! THE BLAST SCATTERED FLAMING DEBRIS IN ALL DIRECTIONS!

LIKELY THE PILOTS NEVER KNEW WHAT HAPPENED! WONDER WHO THEY WERE?

IT WON'T BE EASY TO IDENTIFY EVEN THE PLANE!

THOUGH THE TRAGEDY REMAINS UNEXPLAINED, MORNING HEADLINES SUGGEST ONE POSSIBILITY...

YUH RECKON THEM FELLERS IN THE PLANE COULD'VE BEEN CONNECTED WITH THAT ROBBERY 200 MILES SOUTH O' HERE, POW-WOW?

NO TELLING, SHERIFF! WE DON'T KNOW WHO OWNED THE PLANE OR WHERE IT CAME FROM, AND WE HAVEN'T FOUND ANY GEMS!

5 BANDITS STEAL GEMS WORTH HALF-MILLION

NOR DOES A SCARED BOY'S STORY, TWO NIGHTS LATER, SHED LIGHT ON THE MYSTERY...

WITH MY OWN EYES I SAW THEM, OHYESA--THREE FAT GHOSTS FLYING OVER THE GHOST CHIEF! AND THERE WAS A LOT OF LOUD NOISE!

ARE YOU SURE YOU WEREN'T IMAGINING THINGS, LITTLE FOX, BEING SO NEAR THE MOUNTAIN AFTER DARK?

ON THE FOURTH DAY, OTHER BUSINESS TAKES POW-WOW TO THE OPPOSITE SLOPE, UNDER THE GHOST CHIEF'S STONY STARE...

WE SENT FOR YUH, POW-WOW, 'CAUSE ARROWS KILLED THIS DEER, AN' MOCCASINS MADE THESE TRACKS!

AND YOU THOUGHT SOME OF MY TRIBESMEN WERE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO HUNT ON A GOVERNMENT PRESERVE? I DOUBT IT, WARDEN!

WE SIOUX TIE FEATHERS TO OUR ARROWS WITH HORSEHAIR, NOT THREAD-- AND THE SOLES OF OUR MOCCASINS DON'T HAVE LENGTHWISE SEAMS!

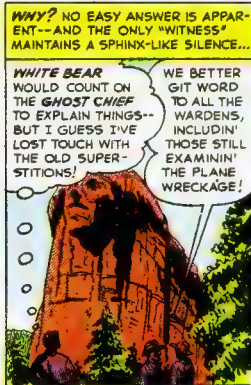
MAYBE... BUT LET'S SEE WHERE THE POACHER'S TRAIL LEADS!

MORE TELLTALE SIGNS GUIDE THE INDIAN LAWMAN TO A THICKET--AND A SHOCKING DISCOVERY...

IT'S WARDEN TOM PELL, MURDERED--BY ARROWS! POW-WOW, YUH GOT TO CHOOSE 'TWTX THE LAW AN' LOYALTY TO YORE REDSKIN RELATIVES!

AS A PEACE OFFICER, WARDEN, I'M AGAINST ALL OUTLAWS! AND IF ANY SIOUX DID THIS, MY PEOPLE WOULD BE THE FIRST TO CONDEMN HIM!





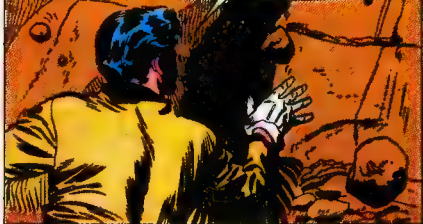
AND THE SAFEST PLACE TO CONCENTRATE, IF THERE'S GOING TO BE SHOOTING IS IN A SHELTERED NICHE AT THE BASE OF THE CLIFF!

GUN'S TOO NOISY--AN' HE'S COMIN' CLOSE ENOUGH SO A **LAND-SLIDE** CAN'T MISS!



NEXT INSTANT...

GREAT SCOTT--AN' **AVALANCHE!** AND NOT A CHANCE TO GET OUT OF ITS WAY! DEAD OR ALIVE, I'M DUE FOR A QUICK BURIAL!



MOMENTS LATER, AS DUST CLOUDS DRIFT FROM TONS OF BROKEN ROCK...

HE'S DONE FOR! LOOKED LIKE A INJUN TO ME!

IF IT WAS THAT REDSKIN LAWMAN THEY CALL POW-WOW SMITH, WE JUST DONE OURSELVES A GOOD TURN!



BUT SHORTLY AFTER, A STIRRING IN THE HEAP OF RUBBLE--AND A DISHEVELED FIGURE EMERGES...

LUCKY THIS CRACK SHIELDED ME FROM THE MAIN WEIGHT OF THE ROCKSLIDE! BUT I'D MAKE A PERFECT TARGET IF I STARTED FOR HELP! SEEMS THE ONLY WAY FOR ME TO GO IS THE WAY CHIEF **BROKEN BLADE** WENT--UP!



INCH BY INCH, GROPING FOR FRAGILE HANDHOLDS, POW-WOW WORKS HIS WAY UP THE MENACING SLOPE...

THEY GOT UP SOME--HOW--AND SO DID MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER! BUT **BROKEN BLADE** WAS RUNNING FROM ENEMIES, AND I'M RUNNING INTO THEM--WITH THESE CROWS ANNOUNCING MY ARRIVAL!



BUT WHEN HE FINALLY REACHES THE TOP...

HE MADE IT! YUH LOSE YORE BET, MARY! NOW WATCH HOW MUCH QUICKER HE GITTS DOWN!

NIX, JAKE! WE DON'T WANT NO MORE CORPSES LYIN' AROUND THE MOUNTAIN! WE'LL SALIVATE HIM LAST THING FORE WE LEAVE!





PRESENTLY, IN A DEEP CLEFT WITHIN THE 'FEATHERS' OF THE GHOST CHIEF'S STONE BONNET...

ROPE'S, SUPPLIES--EVERYTHING! GUESS YOU DIDN'T COME UP HERE THE HARD WAY, AS I DID!

WE PARACHUTED FROM A HELICOPTER NIGHT 'FORE LAST, AFTER HEARIN' 'BOUT THE PLANE AN' LOOKIN' THE SITUATION OVER!



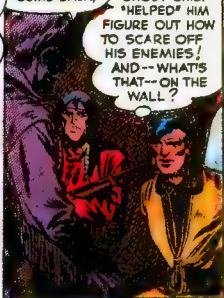
THEN THE 'GHOSTS' LITTLE FOX SAW WERE YOUR PARACHUTES! AND YOU'RE HERE LOOKING FOR THE STOLEN GEMS YOUR FRIENDS HAD!

FRIENDS? THEM DIRTY SKUNKS WAS LIGHTIN' OUT WITH OUR SHARE OF THE SWAG! IF THEY'D LIVED, WE'D HAVE KILLED 'EM, SOONER OR LATER!



COME ON! WE GOT TO FIND THAT JEWELRY AN' PULL OUT 'FORE THE WARDENS COME BACK!

THIS MUST BE THE CAVE **BROKEN** **BLADE** TOLD ABOUT, WHERE THE GHOST CHIEF 'HELPED' HIM FIGURE OUT HOW TO SCARE OFF HIS ENEMIES! AND--WHAT'S THAT--ON THE WALL?



MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER'S EAGLE TOTEM--AND MINE! HE BROKE HIS KNIFE CARVING IT, WHICH IS HOW HE GOT THE NAME **BROKEN BLADE**! AND--AND THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA!



EAGERLY, POW-WOW STARTS DIGGING WITH HIS BOUND HANDS...

**BROKEN BLADE** KEPT THE **HAFT** OF THE KNIFE--BUT HOW ABOUT THE **BLADE**? IT'S A WILD HOPE--BUT IT **MIGHT** STILL BE HERE...



AND AFTER ANXIOUS MINUTES OF PROBING...

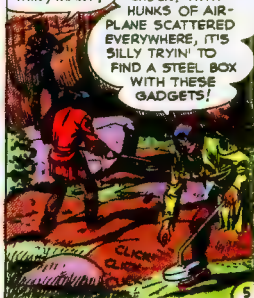
GOT IT! NO MISTAKING THE FEEL OF METAL--A BIT RUSTY, BUT WITH AN EDGE SHARP ENOUGH TO CUT ANY ROPE!



MEANWHILE, HAVING LOWERED THEMSELVES BY BLOCK-AND-TACKLE, THE BANDITS SEARCH BELOW WITH METAL DETECTORS...

FIND SOMETHIN', MARY?

CONSERNS BOLT, CHUCK! WITH HUNKS OF AIR-PLANE SCATTERED EVERYWHERE, IT'S SILLY TRYIN' TO FIND A STEEL BOX WITH THESE GADGETS!



AND AS POW-WOW DESCENDS, USING LIGHT ROPES FROM THE CAVE...

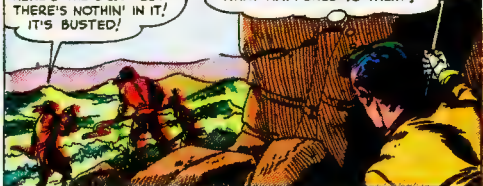
I'D FEEL BETTER IF I WERE INVISIBLE! I'LL BE A SITTING DUCK FOR THAT RIFLE IF THEY SPOT ME--AND THIS IS NO TIME FOR MY LUCK TO RUN OUT!



JUST THEN...

HERE'S THE BOX--BUT THERE'S NOTHIN' IN IT! IT'S BUSTED!

THE SAME BOX I FOUND! IF THE STOLEN GEMS WERE IN IT, I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM?



PROBABLY BUSTED WHEN THE PLANE CRASHED--THE GEMS MUST BE CLOSE BY! LOOK AROUND, YUH NUMBSKULLS!

TOO BAD THEY'RE SO DISAPPOINTED! BUT PERHAPS I CAN MANUFACTURE GEMS FOR THEM--FROM THIS PIECE OF QUARTZ!



THERE WE ARE--AS PRETTY A MESS OF SPARKLERS AS EVER I SAW! PERFECT BAIT FOR A TRAP--SOON AS I SET A TRAP!



SPREADING ROPE LOOPS IN A GRASSY AREA, POW-WOW PASSES A LINE OVER A TREE LIMB AND MAKES IT FAST TO A NEARBY BOULDER...

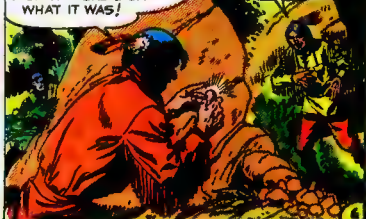
AN OLD TRICK, BUT STILL A GOOD ONE! NOW TO COAX THEM OVER THIS WAY!



THEN, AS HE TOSSES GLITTERING CRYSTALS TOWARD THE SEARCHERS...

HUH--? LOOKY HERE--I FOUND ONE! HAD TO KICK IT 'FORE I SAW WHAT IT WAS!

KEEP LOOKIN'! THE OTHERS MUST BE NEAR!







ONE--AN! THERE'S  
ANOTHER--AN!  
ANOTHER!

YIPPEE! THERE'S THE WHOLE LOT OF 'EM!  
JOE AN' BRICKTOP DONE US A BIG FAVOR,  
GITTIN' THEMSELVES KILLED SO WE DON'T  
HAVE TO SPLIT WITH 'EM!



BUT NEXT MOMENT...

HOLD ON! THESE ARE  
PHONY! IT'S A TRICK--  
AN' THERE'S THE  
TRICKSTER!

HUH? HOW'D  
HE GIT  
LOOSE?

THOSE  
STONES  
ARE AS  
PHONY AS  
COYOTES  
IN INDIAN  
CLOTHES--  
AND HERE'S  
A BETTER  
TRICK I'VE  
BEEN SAVING  
FOR YOU!



I'LL TAKE  
CARE O'--  
YIIIIII!

WHAT IN  
TARNATION?

ENJOY  
IT WHILE  
YOU CAN!

WHEN THE LAW  
DECIDES TO  
HANG YOU RIGHT-  
SIDE-UP, FOR  
MURDER, YOU  
WON'T BE ABLE  
TO!

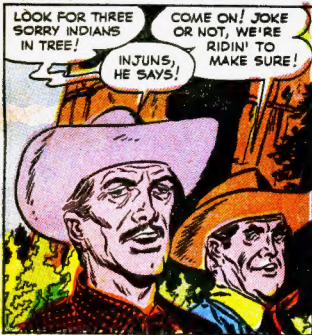


SOON, ON THE OPPOSITE SLOPE,  
BAFFLED WARDENS HEAR A  
BOOMING VOICE FROM ABOVE...

HO, PALEFACES! SEEK WHERE  
IRON BIRD  
FELL!

LISTEN...IT'S THE  
GHOST CHIEF--  
TALKIN' TO US! ONLY  
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

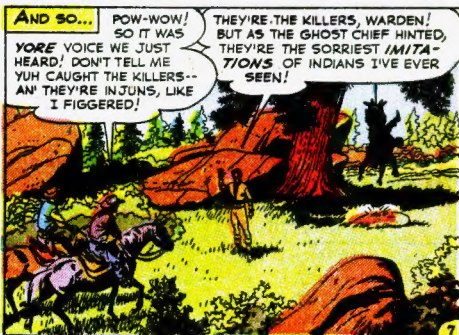
BUT HOW  
COULD  
ANYONE  
POSSIBLY  
GIT UP THERE  
TO PLAY  
TRICKS ON  
US?



LOOK FOR THREE  
SORRY INDIANS  
IN TREE!

COME ON! JOKE  
OR NOT, WE'RE  
RIDIN' TO  
MAKE SURE!

INJUNS,  
HE SAYS!



AND SO...

POW-WOW!  
SO IT WAS

YORE VOICE WE JUST  
HEARD! DON'T TELL ME  
YUH CAUGHT THE KILLERS--  
AN' THEY'RE INJUNS, LIKE  
I FIGGERED!

THEY'RE THE KILLERS, WARDEN!  
BUT AS THE GHOST CHIEF HINTED,  
THEY'RE THE SORRIEST IMITA-  
TIONS OF INDIANS I'VE EVER  
SEEN!

AS POW-WOW ENDS HIS EXPLANATION...

YOU SEE, HAVING TO WORK SECRETLY, THE CROOKS HOPED ANYONE SPOTTING THEM WOULD THINK THEY WERE SIOUX BRAVES, JUST ROAMING AROUND!

AN' THEY KILLED THE DEER, AN' TOM PELL, WHEN HE SURPRISED 'EM-- TO KEEP US 'BUSY ELSEWHERE! BUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GEMS?

ON MY SECOND TRIP UP, I NOTICED SOMETHING SPARKLING IN THE NESTS IN THOSE TREES! YOU KNOW HOW CROWS LOVE SHINY, GLITTERING OBJECTS! THE TWO FLIERS MUST HAVE HIDDEN THEM THERE BEFORE THEY TOOK OFF AGAIN ON THEIR FATAL FLIGHT!

LATER, WHEN THE STOLEN GEMS HAVE BEEN RECOVERED FROM THE CROWS' NESTS, AND POW-WOW HAS RETURNED TO RED DEER VALLEY...

NOW THAT YOU, TOO, HAVE BEEN SAVED BY THE GHOST CHIEF'S MAGIC, OHIYESA, PERHAPS YOU WILL NOT SCOFF WHEN I SPEAK OF YOUR GREAT-GRANDFATHER'S FEAT!

I NEVER SCOFFED AT YOUR STORIES, **WHITE BEAR**-- LEAST OF ALL THE ONE ABOUT **BROKEN BLADE!**

I ONLY SAID PERHAPS HIS ENEMIES DESERVED SOME OF THE CREDIT! I'D NEVER HAVE RISKED CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN IF ENEMIES HADN'T DRIVEN ME TO IT!

YOU ARE WISE, OHIYESA! AFTER ALL--WITHOUT ENEMIES AND DANGERS--HOW COULD THERE EVER BE ANY HEROES?

*The End*

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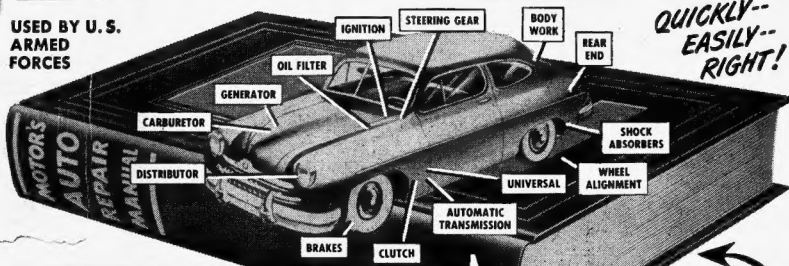
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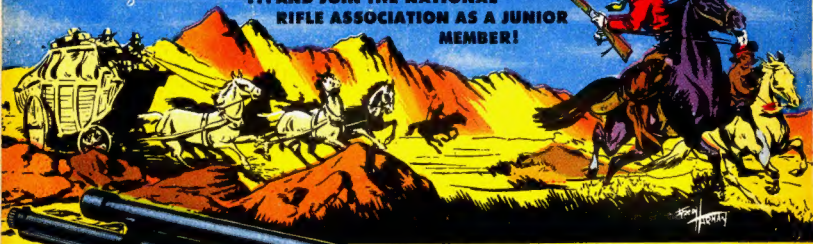
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